

more individualized, accountability-based interventions for youth involved with the juvenile courts: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the senate of the one hundred third general assembly of the state of Tennessee, That the continued success in the reduction of juvenile crime in Tennessee and the increase of vital services provided to children who are in the juvenile criminal system is dependent upon the renewal of Juvenile Accountability Block Grant funds by the federal government. Be it further

Resolved, That the Senate strongly urges the United States Congress and the President of the United States to restore funding for the Juvenile Accountability Block Grants because of the tremendous value these funds provide for local communities in Tennessee. Be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit enrolled copies of this resolution to each member of the Tennessee Congressional Delegation, to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United States, to the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, and to the President and Secretary of the United States Senate.

POM-422. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the General Assembly of the State of Ohio relative to the Election Assistance Commission; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 1550

Whereas, the help America Vote Act of 2002, Public Law No. 107-252, establishes the Election Assistance Commission to serve as a national clearinghouse and resource for the compilation of information and review of procedures with respect to the administration of federal elections; and

Whereas, the Election Assistance Commission, among its other responsibilities, is charged with providing for the testing, certification, decertification, and recertification of voting system hardware and software by accredited laboratories, as well as the adoption of voluntary voting system guidelines; and

Whereas, states desiring to implement voter-verifiable paper ballots for electronic voting systems are dependent upon the Election Assistance Commission issuing its certifications and voluntary voting system guidelines in order to acquire secure voting machines; and

Whereas, the members of the Senate of the 125th General Assembly of Ohio are committed to seeing the provisions of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 implemented in such a manner as to make electronic voting as safe and secure as possible for Ohio citizens: Now therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the members of the Senate of the 125th General Assembly of Ohio, request the Congress of the United States to direct the Election Assistance Commission to develop standards and security accreditation guidelines for all electronic voting devices in accordance with the Help America Vote Act of 2002; and be it further

Resolved, That we, the members of the Senate of the 125th General Assembly of Ohio, request the Congress of the United States to direct the Election Assistance Commission to establish standards for the design and use of reasonably affordable voter-verifiable paper ballots for electronic voting systems for states that desire to implement the use of those ballots; and be it further

Resolved, That we, the members of the Senate of the 125th General Assembly of Ohio, further request the Congress of the United States to direct the Election Assistance Commission to expedite its efforts regarding the testing, certification, decertification,

and recertification of voting system hardware and software and the adoption of voluntary voting system guidelines pursuant to the Help America Vote Act of 2002; and be it further

Resolved, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the members of the Ohio Congressional delegation, to the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, to the President Pro Tempore and Secretary of the United States Senate, and to the news media of Ohio.

POM-423. A joint memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Washington relative to the State's DVA health care system; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8040

Whereas, there are 670,000 veterans who have chosen to call the great State of Washington home; and

Whereas, these citizens are deserving of a world class health care system to deal with injuries and diseases resulting from their selfless service to our country; and

Whereas, Washington State has significantly fewer veterans being served by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (U.S. DVA) than other states in the nation, and in 2002 was ranked second to the last in the number of veterans receiving health care through the U.S. DVA; and

Whereas, veterans in Washington State are being placed on waiting lists by the U.S. DVA in order to receive health care and pharmacy services; and

Whereas, the U.S. DVA national waiting list data from July 2002 through September 2003 indicates the Veterans' Integrated Service Network 20, which includes Washington State, has the largest number of veterans waiting for nonemergent clinic visits; and

Whereas, an increasing number of Washington State veterans who formerly relied on alternate health care providers are finding themselves without health care and are turning to the U.S. DVA for their health care for the first time; and

Whereas, the U.S. DVA Capital Asset Re-alignment for Enhanced Services (CARES) initiative has not fully considered the current and future need for veterans' health care services across the Veterans' Integrated Service Network; and

Whereas, it is imperative that Washington State receive adequate federal resources to care for the increasing number of veterans who will rely on the U.S. DVA for health care services: Now, therefore,

Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the President will ensure the U.S. DVA health care system in Washington State will be adequate to serve the current and future demands of our state's veterans. Your Memorialists further pray that Congress and the President affirm the debt owed these veterans and provide funding for those services deemed necessary. Be it

Resolved, That copies of this Memorial be immediately transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United States, the Secretary of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of Washington.

POM-424. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the Legislature of the State of Michigan relative to eligibility for prisoner of war benefits; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 179

Whereas, under current federal law, a former Prisoner of War is eligible for special

benefits when the imprisonment extends for a period of at least 30 days. These benefits include a variety of health services, including some that require a threshold of eligibility of 90 days of internment; and

Whereas, many people strongly feel that the length of time served as a POW necessary to receive special benefits is far too long. The sacrifice being made by members of our military who are incarcerated as prisoners and the conditions they face are such that the 30-day requirement is entirely inappropriate; and

Whereas, much stronger protections should be extended to the men and women who risk everything in defense of their country and their fellow citizens. Creating a minimum threshold for POW benefits eligibility would send an important message to our military that our country is making a true commitment to these heroes commensurate with their suffering and sacrifices: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the house of representatives, That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to enact legislation to reduce the threshold of eligibility for Prisoner of War benefits to one day of imprisonment; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. ROBERTS, from the Select Committee on Intelligence:

Report to accompany S. 2386, An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Intelligence Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 108-258).

By Mr. ROBERTS, from the Select Committee on Intelligence, without amendment:

S. 2386. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Intelligence Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. COLEMAN (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. REED):

S. 2383. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to require the registration of contractors' taxpayer identification numbers in the Central Contractor Registry database of the Department of Defense, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BOND (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 2384. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to permit business concerns that are owned by venture capital operating companies or pension plans to participate in the Small Business Innovation Research Program; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.